

1 ABSTRACT

2 The present invention creates a secondary market in private equities by auctioning  
3 venture-backed private equities over the Internet to qualified investors. Typical sources for the  
4 private equities will be interests in limited partnerships and pre-IPO or pulled-IPO securities.  
5 The operator of the system may sometimes take a position in certain private equities so as to  
6 have "inventory" to later sell on the system. In a typical buyer-driven transaction using the  
7 present invention, a qualified buyer puts out a bid for private assets in a particular area. Sellers  
8 who subscribe to the system receive notice of the bid and can then respond. In a typical seller-  
9 driven transaction using the present invention, a seller puts out a notice on the system of equities  
10 for sale. Buyers who subscribe to the system receive notice and can respond. Either the buyer or  
11 the seller may be charged by the system, depending on the transaction.